

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 AID-05 AF-10 ARA-10
EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 /114 W
-----081507 290250Z /63

R 271714Z APR 78
FM USINT HAVANA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1747
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS
USICA WASHDC
USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L HAVANA 1099

NESCO

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: UNESCO, PORG SPON CU
SUBJ: INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATING COUNCIL FOR
MASS MEDIA AND INFORMATION IN NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES

REF: STATE 94649

1. PURSUANT TO REFTTEL, USINT HAS OBTAINED FOLLOWING
DOCUMENTS ON APRIL 17-20 NON-ALIGNED INFORMATION MEETING
FROM LOCAL DIPLOMATIC SOURCES: (A) AGENDA OF MEETING; (B)
LIST OF PARTICIPANTS; (C) FINAL REPORT; (D) REPORT BY
INDIAN REPRESENTATIVE ON NON-ALIGNED NEWS POOL; AND (E) REPORT
BY YUGOSLAV REPRESENTATIVE ON NON-ALIGNED RADIO-TELEVISION
ORGANIZATION. DOCUMENTS WILL BE POUCHED TO IO/UNESCO FOR
ONWARD DISTRIBUTION AND ANALYSIS.

2. ACCORDING TO SECOND-HAND REPORTS, ONLY ISSUES OF
CONTENTION THAT AROSE DURING MEETING WERE: (A) SITE OF
FOLLOW-UP SESSION WITH NOD FINALLY GOING TO
TOGO (APPARENTLY IRAQ AND CUBA WERE EARLIER PUSHING
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THEIR RESPECTIVE CANDIDACIES), AND (B) TUNISIAN EFFORT TO
PROVIDE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOREDINATING COUNCIL WITH
OVERSIGHT ROLE OVER NON-ALIGNED NEWS POOL-- WHICH NOW
APPARENTLY IS SIMPLY A MECHANISM FOR SHARING UNILATERAL
INFORMATION. THIS MOVE WAS SUCCESSFULLY BLOCKED BY INDIAN
DEL AND OTHERS. ACCORDING TO ONE REPORT, DELEGATES DID
DEBATE OVER CONTENT OF "NEW WORLD INFORMATION ORDER" AND

DEFINITION OF "NEWS", BUT RESULTS WERE INCONCLUSIVE AND
NO NEW INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISM OR POSITIONS EMERGED.

3. SESSION WAS OPENED BY CUBAN VICE-PRESIDENT AND
FOREIGN POLICY KINGPIN CARLOS RAFAEL RODRIGUEZ WHO
DELIVERED STRONG CRITICISM OF POWER AND "BIAS" OF WESTERN
(ESPECIALLY US) PRESS AGENCIES, AS TOOLS OF IMPERIALIST POWERS.

4. NEVERTHELESS ACCORDING TO REPORTS, CUBAN DELEGATION, AS HOSTS,
PLAYED CONCILIATORY AND MEDIATING ROLE WITHIN SESSIONS. RATIONALE
FOR BALANCED CUBAN ROLE MAY HAVE BEEN REVEALED BY CUBAN
DELEGATION CHAIRMAN NIVARLDO HERRERA (PRESIDENT OF CUBAN TV
AND RADIO) IN SPEECH IN WHICH HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT SOME
PEOPLE HAVE CLAIMED THAT THERE ARE DANGERS OF DIVISION AND
FLAGGING ACTIVITY IN NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT. (COMMENT: CUBANS
WANT TO COUNTERACT THESE PHENOMENA IN ORDER TO PROTECT
THEIR POSITION AS HOST OF 1979 NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT.) IN
CONNECTION WITH THIS URGE TO APPEAR BALANCED, CUBANS
REPORTEDLY PRIVATELY EXPRESSED REGRET THAT HOSTILE
STATES SUCH AS SOMALIA DID NOT ATTEND HAVANA MEETING.
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